

Learning module 4

Keeping the Doctor Away.

Objective: Students will assess Revolutionary-era sanitation/health guidelines and then view a video segment that highlights specific issues of healthcare for the Continental soldier at the Valley Forge encampment.

Directions: In the fourth Learning module, students will work as a small group in making decisions and fostering discussion; however, each student must remember that he/she is also moving through the steps of the module from the perspective of an individual Continental soldier who is ultimately assessing his/her ability to successfully “survive and thrive” while encamped at Valley Forge.

Step A. Evaluating Revolutionary-era sanitation guidelines.

Read the text excerpt below:

Disease, not cold or starvation was the true scourge of the camp. Army returns reveal that two-thirds of the nearly 2,000 men who perished died during the warmer months of March, April, and May, when supplies were more abundant. The most common killers were influenza, typhus, typhoid, and dysentery. Dedicated surgeons, capable nurses, a smallpox inoculation program, and camp sanitation regulations limited the death tolls. (<http://www.nps.gov/vafo/historyculture/index.htm>)

Read and evaluate the FOUR main topics outlined by Dr. Benjamin Rush for sanitation within an army camp (**Directions for Preserving the Health of Soldiers, Addressed to the Officers of the Army of the United States.** [Philadelphia : Printed for Thomas Dobson, Fry and Kammerer, printers, 1808]) using the link below.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK22119/>

Questions to Answer from Dr. Rush's text:

*What were the FOUR main topics outlined by Dr. Rush in his published guideline?

1. _____	2. _____
3. _____	4. _____

*Which one of the four topics discussed are most significant in your opinion?

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Students may award themselves up to **5 Survival Points** on the Survival Rubric if they successfully complete the exercises in Step A based on the self-assessed quality of their work.

Step B. View video segment.

Reenactor- a person who participates in reenactments of historical events

<http://youtu.be/VEsgfeE4a38>

Students may award themselves up to **5 Survival Points** on the Survival Rubric if they successfully complete the exercises in Step B.